



Robert D. Harper
Secretary
Department of Natural Resources

Louisiana Department of Natural Resources
617 North Third Street
LaSalle Office Building
Baton Rouge, LA
225-342-4540
bob.harper@la.gov

BIOGRAPHY

In May of 2010, La. Department of Natural Resources Secretary Robert D. Harper, a native of Baton Rouge, began his tenure overseeing the agency charged with coastal management, mineral leasing, oil and gas and conservation programs, and ground water resources and energy programs. Harper had served, since 1992, as DNR Undersecretary.

Governor Bobby Jindal appointed Harper to the cabinet position when he announced the nomination of Secretary Scott Angelle to serve as the Lt. Governor, replacing Mitch Landrieu.

His career began in state government service, in the Division of Administration, as a senior budget analyst in 1970. He is cited as the longest serving Undersecretary since the beginning of re-organization of state government structure in 1976. Once joining DNR, he became responsible for supervising the department's budget of approximately \$277 million at present. In his many years of government service, Secretary Harper has implemented records and data systems, provided extensive testimony before the state legislature, lead disaster recovery efforts, and served on numerous boards and committees.

Secretary Harper becomes the twelfth Natural Resources Secretary since its inception in 1976, created by RS: 36:351.

Harper has served the State of Louisiana for 40 years. He is a Louisiana State University graduate with a B.A. in Political Science and is married to Sherry Penney Harper.